THE PULSE

News of the
New England Deaconess Hospital Employees

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Merry Christmas

Happy New Year

A
wish
fro M the
report E rs and
the edito R s to all
employees fo R a most joyful
and jolly holida Y season. May this
Christmas bring to each a feeling
of deep inner pea C e and gratitude for
all the blessings whic H are ours. May Santa Claus
bring to each his hea R t's desire, be it a new house,
refrigerator, mink coat, Cad I llac convertible, or boy friend.
May the New Year of 1949 bring u S renewed energies as we work together at
our common task of serving the pa T ients under our care . . . THE PULSE STAFF
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MR. WALTER C. EMERY

"I've had a lot of experience in finding dirt, but am still learning how to clean it!" says Mr. Emery, NEDH laundry manager and executive housekeeper.

Born in Portsmouth, New Hampshire, in the Hunking House (where George Washington slept quite some years before), graduated from Massachusetts State Engineering School and a post-graduate course in Business Administration, Mr. Emery has spent most of his years in and around laundries (No wonder ours runs so smoothly!) His father and two uncles operated laundries; a brother is present laundry manager at the Massachusetts Memorial Hospitals; and a nephew is also in the business.

After finishing school, Mr. Emery went to Texas, ran a laundry for several years, and learned to shoot the heads off snakes. He is still a Lone Star State fan, has a fine stock of Texas tall tales, and is a member of the Texas Club of Boston. For twelve years he managed the Brighton Laundry, and then became an inspector for a laundry supply company, working in New York, Baltimore, and Philadelphia.

In the first World War, Mr. Emery served in the Signal Corps. In the second, he was assigned to the Inspector General's Office, Antilles Department. He inspected laundries, engineering installations, hospitals, and even entire smaller posts. His inspection tours took him all over the Caribbean region — Venezuela; British, Dutch, and French Guianas; Trinidad; Puerto Rico; and many other islands. In 1943 alone, he traveled 26,000 miles by air. As a special privilege and in recognition of his outstanding record, Mrs. Emery was allowed to join him in Puerto Rico for one and a half of the three and a half years he spent there. (Only twelve officers' wives out of seventeen hundred were allowed.)

In December, 1944, after his discharge from the Army, Mr. Emery joined the NEDH clan as laundry manager, and in May, 1948, added the title and responsibilities of executive housekeeper. He had always planned to open his own laundry in Portsmouth, but has found that he likes the Deaconess so well, the idea has been abandoned.

Mr. and Mrs. Emery live in Jamaica Plain, and have two children—a son who has his own accounting firm in Portsmouth and a married daughter who also lives there. The family now includes two granddaughters and one grandson. Mr. Emery attributes his success and happiness in a large measure to his wife — "without a good wife, a man is sunk!" His hobby is music — an accomplished saxaphone player, he had his own orchestra for several years. Sports interest him, too — particularly swimming and baseball. He played semi-pro in the minor leagues in Texas for a while. In the same list of strenuous activities may be mentioned his fondness of Latin American dances—the rumba in particular.

Perhaps Mr. Emery's most outstanding quality is a genuine interest in people, professed by many but actually exhibited by few. The results of this interest may be clearly seen in the loyalty and cooperation of the employees who work with, not for, him, and the esteem in which he is held by the entire hospital.

LITTLE RED STOCKINGS

Christmas at Deaconess would not be complete without the familiar little Red Stockings. And although the little stockings may appear insignificant yet they are of real value in our program.

Last year the employees of Deaconess responded to the appeal of the Red Stockings and over two hundred dollars were added to our Building Fund.

The many friends of our hospital on the outside entered into the spirit of our program also. Because of their interest nearly four thousand dollars were counted by Miss Stockwell.

This Christmas we hope the Fund of the Little Red Stockings will be increased and thereby bring closer the fulfillment of our dreams—a greater New England Deaconess Hospital.

To one and all who have in the past supported the Red Stocking Fund we say thank you and pray that the blessings of the Great Giver may be yours this Advent Season.

H. S. HUGHEY,
Chaplain and Field Secretary

Mrs. Ann Burke, employed at NEDH for fourteen years, sorts some of the hundreds of instruments used in the Palmer Operating Room.

HOSPITAL DEPARTMENTS
SURGERY
No. Eight of a Series

The Department of Surgery has expanded in many ways since the Hospital's beginning in 1896 in the little house on Massachusetts Avenue. After the Hospital was on its present site, ten years later, the Deaconess Operating Suite occupied about one quarter of its present space and had only two operating rooms. In the years that followed, the Sunroom became the Dental Room and today it is the "Nose and Throat Room." The linen and sterilizing rooms were one. Now one room is set aside entirely for the storage of linen and supplies. The sterilizing space has been enlarged until today the sterile supplies are processed there for all three buildings. As time passed two more operating rooms and several service rooms were added. The Palmer suite, of three operating rooms, was opened in 1920.

The hospital has always been up-to-date in its equipment. There have been many minor improvements and changes to make the Operating Rooms more modern. One great advancement was made several years ago when the method of sterilization was changed to sterilizing by steam under pressure. Visitors from many hospitals come here to find new ideas in setting up and running an operating suite, and every day doctors from foreign countries are here to observe our surgery and technique.

The personnel has increased necessarily over the years. In 1917 there was one supervisor, two graduates, one houseman, and some part-time nursing assistants. Today, including Palmer, there is one supervisor, two head nurses, twenty-two graduates, five orderlies, eleven aides, several "yellow girls," and two secretaries. There is also a surgical instructor and an assistant. In the early days of the operating room, the supervisor helped admit patients, train the students for surgical work, and at times, assisted the superintendent of nurses.

In March of this year, the Operating Room became a separate department under a single supervisor who is responsible for its administration and supervision. Miss Florence R. Brown

is now head of the department, and has been with the hospital about three years. Two outstanding supervisors over the years were Miss Adeliza A. Betts, who was the first Deaconess Operating Room supervisor and stayed with the hospital for many years, and Miss Louise Stevens, who supervised the department for nine years and is now doing special duty at the hospital.

In 1923, the Deaconess adopted the closed staff policy. The hospital had many fine surgeons who were pioneers as well as specialists in their fields. An interesting point is shown here in that many of the doctors on the staff today have carried on the work of the surgeons who first started at the new Deaconess Hospital in 1907. One of the greatest doctors on the staff was Dr. Maurice Richardson who did two thirds of all the general surgery. Dr. Daniel Fiske Jones was an assistant to Dr. Richardson and specialized in cancer of the rectum. After World War I, Dr. Leland S. McKittrick, at one time an assistant to Dr. Daniel Fiske Jones, began his practice. Today he is Chief of Staff of the Palmer division and, with Dr. Clifford C. Franseen, Dr. T. C. Pratt, and Dr. John B. McKittrick, performs much of the diabetic surgery in addition to surgery for cancer and allied surgical cases.

Dr. Frank H. Lahey, who was formerly Surgeon in Chief of Deaconess for many years and who started the internationally known Lahey Clinic in 1919, has helped to add many fine surgeons to our staff. Dr. Richard B. Cattell has succeeded him as Surgeon in Chief. Dr. Gilbert Horrax, a disciple of Dr. Harvey Cushing, the pioneer of brain surgery, has developed, with Dr. James L. Poppen, a large neurosurgical service and many neurosurgical procedures are performed each month.

A large amount of chest surgery is done here by Drs. Richard H. Overholt, Richard H. Sweet, and Herbert D. Adams, all authorities in this field. The operating rooms are also equipped and the personnel is trained to assist in all types of general surgery, plastic surgery, surgery of the eye, ear, nose, and throat, orthopedic surgery, and genito-urinary surgery.

The volume of work performed in this department continues to increase. In 1911, eight hundred and fifteen operations were performed; in 1923, one thousand three hundred and fifty-five; and in 1947, four thousand one hundred and twenty-nine. With this fact before us, plans have been drawn for a new suite of operating rooms which, when completed, will be as modern and functionally sound as the combined efforts of doctors, nurses, and architects can make them.

HARRIET R. LOVETT.

ISN'T IT THE TRUTH?

This is an old one, but we would like to repeat it. It refers to the casual legibility of the average doctor's prescription, and Dr. Morris Fishbein reports: "The patient used it for two years as a railroad pass. Twice it got him into Radio City Music Hall and once into Ebbets Field. It came in handy as a letter from his employer to the cashier to increase his salary. And to cap the climax, his daughter played it on the piano and won a scholarship to the Curtis Music Conservatory."

HURLEY HOSPITAL NEWS

HOSPITAL HONORED ON RADIO PROGRAM

On Monday, November 19th, a fifteen-minute radio program at 12:15 over Station WBZ, featuring Mr. Herb Lewis and sponsored by the La Touraine Coffee Company, was dedicated to the New England Deaconess Hospital.

Mr. Lewis, who played and sang popular and old-time favorites, included in his program two songs which were requested by patients here at the hospital — "When I'm Gone You'll Soon Forget Me" and "You Call Everybody Darling."

AFTER THE BALL WAS OVER

Hope you had a grand time at the Christmas Party! Wasn't it swell to get that big hall this year! Sure was a turnout. Good music — good food, too. The cake Fred Cheney made was super. That Glee Club gets better and better every year. It's fun seeing everyone all dressed up, isn't it? And so it went — everyone comparing notes the next day and several days after.

We are, of course, proud of the people who won service awards. Their years of service have been invaluable to the hospital and we appreciate deeply their loyalty and continued interest. Those who received awards were:

25 Years (Diamond set in 20-year pin)
Ella Needham
Herbert C. Robinson
Patrick Sullivan

20 Years
John A. Curtis
Henry Flynn
Eva Gifford
Esther L. Prince
Donald L. Sabine

15 Years
Gertrude S. Jameson
John P. Keefe
Agnes Kennedy
Granville Smith
Betty Terkelsen
Natalie V. Tompkins

10 Years
Frances Benjamin
May Feyler
William P. Murphy
Emmett W. Robb
Gordon F. Wilson

5 Years
Helen G. Abrams
Catherine Flaherty
Clarence B. Fowler
Eva Gordon
Sigrid E. Hellmer
Irja I. Hill
Agnes W. E. Jansson
Leland D. MacCormack
William MacKay
Annie M. May
Virginia M. Sewall
Christine A. Smith
Margaret Walters
Anna L. White

Thanks are due all the way around — to Dr. Cook and the Board of Trustees — to those who helped make all the arrangements — to the Glee Club — to all who worked so willingly — and to you all for coming and being so enthusiastic.

ATTENTION: NEW EMPLOYEES
(Answers to your Questions about Blue Cross and Blue Shield)

What benefits does Blue Cross include?

If you are hospitalized, Blue Cross pays for your room up to $7 per day, plus all extras (laboratory work, drugs, solutions, etc.) for 30 days; up to $3.50 per day plus half payment of extras for the next 90 days.

Outpatient services rendered within 12 hours after an accident are also covered.

Tonsillectomies for children and maternity care are covered only after 12 months' membership.

What benefits does Blue Shield include?

Blue Shield pays your doctor's bill for surgical and obstetrical services in or out of the hospital and medical services in the hospital.

Blue Shield also covers X-ray and anesthesia.

How much do Blue Cross and Blue Shield cost?

The hospital pays half Blue Cross and Blue Shield rates for employees. Therefore, Blue Cross individual membership costs Deaconess employees only $.63 per month semi-private plan, $.38 per month ward plan; Blue Shield only $.45 per month. Family membership costs Deaconess employees only $1.63 per month semi-private plan, $.98 per month ward plan; Blue Shield $1.13 per month.

If you are married, you must have a family membership.

Who may join?

Any permanent employee who works at least 30 hours per week may join Blue Cross and Blue Shield by filling out an application card at the Personnel Office.

Anyone who has come to work at the hospital since September 15, 1948 may become a member at this time by filling out an application card immediately.

Any employee, regardless of length of service, may add Blue Shield to a Blue Cross membership at this time by making application immediately.

NATIONAL DIABETES WEEK OBSERVED

Under the direction of Dr. Howard F. Root, chairman of the Diabetic Detection Committee of the American Diabetes Association, December 6-12 was observed throughout the country as National Diabetes Week. Activities included the following:

November 27

Station WNAC, Boston — Panel discussion on Diabetes by Dr. Elliott P. Joslin, Dr. Howard F. Root, Dr. Priscilla White, Dr. Allan Joslin, and Miss Virginia Safford.

December 6

Meeting of combined medical societies under the sponsorship of the New England Diabetes Association in Sanders Theater, Harvard University.

December 8

Mutual Broadcasting System — a dramatic skit on the discovery of insulin, "The Medical Detective," including Dr. Charles H. Best, co-discoverer of insulin, speaking from Toronto.

December 11

National Broadcasting Company — dramatic skit sponsored by the American Medical Association, "Calling Unknown Diabetics," including talks by Dr. Joslin and Dr. Root in Boston, Dr. Best in Toronto, Dr. Lester J. Palmer in California, and the first patient to win the 25-year victory medal in New York.

GLAD TO SEE YOU!

Our greetings to these new full-time permanent employees who joined us in November:

Admitting
Eleanor Giorgio

Blood Bank
Frances E. Hyde

Chemistry
Ruth D. Rogers

Dietary
Catherine Calley
Sally Hollowell
Bernard Kavanagh

Housekeeping
Peter Athas
Frances Berrigan
Edward P. Garbati
Katherine Jackson

Nursing
Lexie M. Chase
Janet Francisco
Irma Gardner
Marilyn Sabine

Pathology
Virginia Nault
Martha Wilcox

Surgery
Luella Dickerson

MONEY, MONEY

Join the Credit Union and get rich! At the Annual Meeting on November 16, 1948 for the second year a regular dividend of 2% was declared as well as a bonus of 1%. There are 72 members who own shares totaling $2,423.-32. Additional assets amount to nearly $500. During the fiscal year which ended October 31, 1948 thirty loans were made to the members of the Credit Union totaling $3,080.00.

Save regularly and plan for next Christmas and your coming vacation!

FOUND

In the Ladies Room, Palmer Basement, on December eighth, a key ring with three keys.

Orchid topper—small size.

Red round zipper bag with shoulder strap.

Two scarves—one black silk with fringe, one turquoise wool.

Please bring any items you find to the Personnel Office—also come and identify your belongings.

ADMINISTRATION

Administration has been hobbling along—both Dr. Cook and Mr. Lowry were ill at the same time. Dr. Cook was a patient in Baker for several days and then went home with instructions to stay for ten days. It will be good to see him back. Here's for a speedy recovery.

Also among those missing have been Mrs. Anne Cotter, Palmer Hostess; Miss Agnes Kennedy, Switchboard Operator; Mrs. Cornelia Gates, Ward Entrance Hostess; and Betty Cadigan, Messenger. We wish good health for all!

ADMITTING OFFICE

Home, sweet home . . . The skillet and rolling-pin beckoned, and on December 5th succeeded in separating Mrs. Leona "Chille" Trainor from a fascinating new Royal typewriter, a not-so-new desk and chair and a well-worn telephone. Frankly, we envy her! We shall miss her, but knew it

was bound to come—how could we compete with the joys of homemaking? At least one person in this department is trying to figure out how her usual mid-morning breakfast will be conveyed to her in the future. Farewell, dear pal!

Lady of leisure . . . Palmer 418 has become the better mousetrap to which all the world beats a path, for there Miss Louise Rossi holds forth these days. Her illness has withdrawn an efficient secretary from our midst and we long for her return. Louise was ill at home for some time before we could convince her to try our Deaconess hospitality. She probably suspected we might drag a typewriter to Palmer 4 and harness her to it! (The idea was there, believe us!) Until we dare attempt this, we're trying to keep up with her insatiable appetite for visitors. Anxiously we look forward to her speedy recuperation and return.

Welcome mat . . . Miss Eleanor Giorgio joined hands with us in November, assuming secretarial responsibilities. With such charm and attractiveness it was inevitable that she should appear one morning in December with a pretty diamond on THAT finger. Her lucky fiance is Mr. Matthew Piemontese of Bristol, R. I. and the U. S. Navy. Many are the wishes for Eleanor's happiness! All we hope now is that she'll not leave us too soon. Be kind, Eleanor!

DIETARY

The Dietary Department is glad to welcome Miss Ellen A. Riley back to the Deaconess. Miss Riley, who did summer relief work here, is now managing our pay cafeteria.

Miss Irene Anderson has resigned and is planning a sojourn in Florida. Miss Anderson's place in Baker is being taken over by Miss Ann Ross, and Miss Ross's place in Palmer will be filled by Miss Elizabeth Davis.

Chef Bill Gibson won many awards at the recent Massachusetts Cage Bird Association Exhibit at the Mechanics Building. Bill had 15 entries and received 8 firsts as well as the cup for the champion hybrid red canary.

Central Service is holding regular weekly meetings on sanitation for food handlers. The course is similar to one given for cafeteria workers earlier this Fall, and will consist of eight short meetings held during the working day.

Born to Mr. and Mrs. Francis Phillip Bissaillon on November 30, 1948 a son—Francis Phillip, Jr. Mrs. Bissaillon was formerly manager of the Cafeteria. Congratulations to all three!

NURSING

Instead of exchanging inexpensive gifts at their Christmas party, the students and faculty have decided to follow last year's plan of contributing money to make up Christmas baskets for needy families whose names have been supplied by Mrs. Jameson in the Social Service Department. Enough contributions have been received to fill ten baskets.

Regretfully we say goodbye on December 24 to Miss Loraine A. Cormier, who leaves to become Superintendent of Nurses at the Harrington Memorial Hospital in Southbridge. We all wish her the best of luck in her new job.

Friday, December 17, was the occasion for Miss Shrader's annual Christmas tea held in her apartment.

PHARMACY

We wish to extend our sympathy to Mr. Joseph K. Chamberlin, Chief Pharmacist and Purchasing Agent, in the recent loss of his father.

RECORD ROOMS

The Deaconess Record Room regrets to announce that Catherine Leary has left to accept a position nearer home as secretary to Dr. Andrew D. Guthrie in Medford. Good luck, Kay.

We are still catching our breath at the speed with which Helen Chrusz makes her announcements. She came in on December 7 with the news that she was to be married on Friday, December 10, to Dr. Richard Krauss of New York City. The wedding took place at the Little Church Around the Corner, and the reception at the Stork Club. They will make their home in West Palm Beach, Florida.

SOCIAL SERVICE

The narcissus bulbs that arrived from Holland last month have, with great ceremony, been set to sprout in bowls of colored pebbles, and now everyone is eagerly inspecting them for signs of life. If they don't soon pass the crisis, a consultant may have to be called in on the case.

Priscilla Moldenke, Social Service, and Ann Henley and Ruthie Moore, Palmer Record Room, were jointly honored at a party given in the OPD. Everyone drank "Coke," ate cookies and candy, bestowed birthday cards, and sang "Happy Birthday to You"—three times.

After her short stay in the hospital, Betty Downey has left us once more to return to her home in New York. Although we're going to miss seeing her around, every one of us is glad that Betty felt so much better on her discharge than when she first stopped in a few weeks ago.

During the early part of the week of November 29, our three case workers spent some time at the State Conference of Social Workers, enjoying very much the discussions of various phases of their work.

The Palmer OPD, Social Service, and Record Room are once more combining forces this year for a gala Christmas party on December 23, at which all the Clinic personnel and doctors get together for a seasonal celebration.

The Social Service Department is extremely grateful to members of the Nursing Department, both students and staff, who have again this year asked for the names of needy patients in order to make Christmas happier for them and their families. We will also welcome any and all contributions of food, money, or presents from you who, with a gift that may seem very small to you, wish to make someone else's holiday so much more pleasant.

EDITORIAL STAFF

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Associate Editors

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Admitting ..... JOSEPHINE MAGLIOCCA
Blood Bank ..... RUTH NEWTON
Chemistry Lab. ..... CONSTANCE SELLMAN
Dietary ..... MARJORIE LEBEAU
Engineering ..... HERBERT ROBINSON
Hostesses ..... ESTHER PRINCE
Housekeeping ..... HELEN QUINN
Laundry ..... RITA DENNEHY
Nursing ..... CLARICE POOLE
Pathology Lab. ..... KATHERINE HALEY
Pharmacy ..... JOHN KARMAN
Purchasing ..... JOHN KEEFE
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Social Service ..... EVAN PHILLIPS
Solution Room ..... DOROTHY BLANCHARD
Surgery ..... HARRIET LOVETT
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